

*Mr. & Mrs. Robert Szegude*



**ANNUAL REPORTS**  
OF THE TOWN OFFICIALS  
OF THE  
**TOWN OF OAKHAM**

Massachusetts



FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 1953



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## TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1953

**Town Clerk**

DOROTHY P. DAY	Term expires 1955
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**Selectmen**

HENRY W. STONE, JR.	Term expires 1954
JOHN P. O'DONNELL	Term expires 1955
ROGER H. LONERGAN	Term expires 1956

**Assessors**

CHESTER M. ROOD	Term expires 1954
LUDWICK SZCZUKA	Term expires 1955
W. FRANCIS BRENNAN	Term expires 1956

**Board of Public Welfare**

DONALD C. AGAR	Term expires 1954
MARGUERITE M. TROY	Term expires 1955
WALTER G. CHAPMAN	Term expires 1956

**School Committee**

WILLARD C. RUTHERFORD	Term expires 1954
MARY H. PARSONS	Term expires 1955
PHILIP E. DWELLY	Term expires 1956

**Library Trustees**

JOHN P. DAY	Term expires 1954
PHILIP B. BURGESS	Term expires 1955
WINIFRED B. LANE	Term expires 1956

**Cemetery Committee**

ARTHUR WEBB	Term expires 1954
MINNIE F. WHITE	Term expires 1955
FREDERICK G. STONE	Term expires 1956



**SELECTMEN'S APPOINTMENTS**

**Inspector of Animals**

ELMER V. NEWTON

**Inspector of Slaughtering**

ELMER V. NEWTON

**Sealer of Weights and Measures**

FREDERICK G. STONE

**Fire Warden**

LEONARD A. HARDY

**Moth Superintendent**

ELMER V. NEWTON

**Burial Agent**

ARTHUR WEBB

**Janitor of Memorial Hall**

WINTHROP H. BOYD

**Dog Officer**

WACLAW S. SMICHINSKI

**Veterans' Agent**

WALTER E. COLE

**Superintendent of Streets**

HAROLD E. GRAY JR.  
RALPH T. YOUNG

To September 26  
from November 7

**Chief of Police**

DONALD C. AGAR

**Wire Inspector**

RALPH L. DOWNER

**Civilian Defense Director****W. FRANCIS BRENNAN****List of Jurors**

LESLIE C. ARMS, Contractor

WALTER E. COLE, Factory Worker

PHILIP E. DWELLY, Lumber Company Salesman

JACK E. NARROW, Factory Worker

WILLARD C. RUTHERFORD, Poultryman

LEROY C. SPINNEY, Electrician

WILLIAM N. WAREING, Carpenter



## Report of the TOWN CLERK

### VITAL RECORDS OF 1953

#### BIRTHS

##### February

- 9—Margery Gray, daughter of Harold E. and Nancy (Ward) Gray.
- 13—Dennis John Lucier, son of Adelard J. and Ruth A. (Leno) Lucier.
- 21—Carol Anne Wilkins, daughter of Ronald W. and Gloria H. (Holway) Wilkins.

##### April

- 17—Beth Andrea Burgess, daughter of Philip B. and Nancy G. (Fox) Burgess.

##### June

- 2—June Christine Foley, daughter of Charles E. and Alice (Gagnon) Foley.

##### August

- 13—Steven Tryon Walker, son of Alfred S. and Dorothy A. (Phelan) Walker, Jr.

##### September

- 5—Monica Anne Young, daughter of Edward J. and Jeanette L. (Grise) Young.

##### October

- 23—Richard Clayton Nahkala, son of Weikko I. and Helen (Bealand) Nahkala.
- 24—George Lindsey Edwards, Jr., son of George L. and Hannah S. (Horstman) Edwards.

## November

19—Joanne Dorothy Lupa, daughter of Anthony A. and Dorothy V. (Morris) Lupa.

## December

5—Laurie Susan Crawford, daughter of Alexander B. and Vivian E. (Loring) Crawford.

**MARRIAGES**

## June

20—Alphonse A. Jacques, Jr., Sturbridge, and Mildred A. Bechan, Oakham.

27—Richard L. Wilbur, Oakham and Pauline R. Upham, Millbury.

## August

1—Robert C. Phoenix, Oakham, and Phyllis R. Bechan, Oakham.

## October

10—Charles F. Howe, New Braintree and Carol E. Riffenburg, Oakham.

**DEATHS**

January	Y	M	D
15—Lillian M. Grime	60	11	24
February			
20—Henry F. Cooley	63	4	14
April			
21—Henry R. Streeter	74	11	6
May			
8—Lillian A. Hardy	47	5	14
October			
28—Minnie M. Day	78	11	19

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## NON-RESIDENTS BURIED IN TOWN

Date of Death	Y	M	D
January			
19—A. Warren Dean, Everett	62	1	18
March			
17—Caroline A. Arnold, Howard, R.I.	89	11	16
April			
21—Josephine Olmstead, New York, N.Y.	93		
May			
10—Alberta Angelopoulos, Roxbury	24		
December			
14—Lester W. Knight, Leicester	76	2	13

## DOG LICENSES

77 Males @ \$2.00	\$	154 00
22 Females @ \$5.00		110 00
32 Spayed @ \$2.00		64 00
<hr/>		
131 dogs licensed		\$328 00
Fees retained - 20 cents each		26 20
Net Return		301 80

## SPORTING LICENSES

30 Fishing @ \$3.25	\$	97 50
12 Hunting @ \$3.25		39 00
23 Sporting @ \$5.25		120 75
2 Minors' Fishing @ \$1.25		2 50
12 Women's Fishing @ \$2.25		27 00
2 Trapping @ \$7.75		15 50
1 Non-resident 3-day Fishing @ \$2.75		2 75
1 Non-resident Fishing \$7.75		7 75
2 Duplicate @ \$.50		1 00
6 Sporting and Trapping (over 70 years)		Free
2 Military Sporting		Free
<hr/>		
93 licenses issued	\$	313 75
Fees retained 25 cents each except duplicate & free		20 75
Net Return	\$	293 00

DOROTHY P. DAY,

Town Clerk

## Report of BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Appropriation - Town Officers Salaries                      \$     1,610 00

### Town Clerk

Paid

Dorothy P. Day	\$	125 00
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### Selectmen

Paid

Henry W. Stone, Jr., Chairman	\$	100 00
John P. O'Oonnell		75 00
Roger H. Lonergan		75 00

### Assessors

Paid

Chester M. Rood, Chairman	\$	100 00
W. Francis Brennan		75 00
Ludwick Szczuka		75 00
Dorothy P. Day, Clerk		50 00

### Board of Public Welfare

Paid

Donald C. Agar, Chairman	\$	15 00
Walter G. Chapman, Clerk		25 00
Marguerite M. Troy		15 00

### Treasurer

Paid

Walter G. Chapman	\$	400 00
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### Tax Collector

Paid

Walter G. Chapman	\$	350 00
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### School Committee

Paid

Willard C. Rutherford, Chairman	\$	10 00
Philip E. Dwelly		10 00
Mary H. Parsons, Clerk		25 00

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**Auditor**

Paid

O. Harold Erickson	\$	75 00
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**Moderator**

Paid

Leroy C. Spinney	\$	10 00
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\$	1,610 00	\$	1,610 00
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**Inspection of Animals**

Appropriation	\$	35 00
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Paid

Elmer V. Newton	\$	35 00
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**Inspection of Slaughtering**

Appropriation	\$	25 00
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Paid

Elmer V. Newton	\$	25 00
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**Inspection of Wires**

Appropriation	\$	25 00
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Paid

Ralph L. Downer	\$	20 59
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Balance to Revenue		4 41
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\$	25 00	\$	25 00
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**Dutch Elm Disease**

Appropriation	\$	105 00
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Transferred from Reserve Fund		89 85
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Paid

Daniel Leno	\$	9 20
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J. F .Allen		90 85
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Elmer V. Newton		94 80
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\$	194 85	\$	194 85
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**Moth Suppression**

Appropriation		\$	210 00
Paid			
Elmer V. Newton	\$	86 40	
J. F. Allen		82 80	
Balance to Revenue		40 80	
	\$	210 00	\$ 210 00

**Tree Warden**

Appropriation		\$	50 00
Paid for Labor			
Percy F. Wilbur	\$	27 10	
Edward Kennan		18 40	
Paid for Material			
1 Saw		4 25	
Balance to Revenue		25	
	\$	50 00	\$ 50 00

**Sealer of Weights & Measures**

Appropriation (Plus Fees)		\$	10 00
Paid			
Frederick G. Stone	\$	10 00	

**Dog Officer**

Appropriation		\$	25 00
Transferred from Reserve Fund			5 00
Paid			
Waclaw S. Smichinski for services	\$	30 00	
	\$	30 00	\$ 30 00

**Police Department**

Appropriation		\$	75 00
Paid			
Donald C. Agar, Chief	\$	64 00	
Balance to Revenue		11 00	
	\$	75 00	\$ 75 00

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## Elections and Registration

Appropriation \$ 125 00

Paid

Dorothy P. Day

Registering Voters \$ 5 00

Recording Vital Statistics 16 00

Paid

Anne M. Dwelly, Census 35 00

Ballot Clerks and Tellers:

Marguerite M. Troy 9 00

Annie C. Robinson 9 00

William Zukus 9 00

Rita A. Dod 5 00

Constable, Donald C. Agar 10 00

Balance to Revenue 26 50

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\$ 125 00 \$ 125 00

## Surety Bonds

Appropriation \$ 100 00

Paid

Healy Bros - on Town Clerk \$ 5 00

Robert Dea - on Treasurer 27 00

on Tax Collector 51 00

on Asst. Treasurer 10 00

Balance to Revenue 7 00

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\$ 100 00 \$ 100 00

## Town Officers Supplies

Appropriation \$ 500 00

Paid

For Tax Collector & Treas. \$ 162 62

For Town Clerk 54 77

For Assessors 85 11

For Auditor 13 38

For Selectmen 41 65

Balance to Revenue 142 47

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\$ 500 00 \$ 500 00

**Printing**

Appropriation		\$	600 00
Paid			
For Selectmen - Town Reports	\$	396 90	
For Treasurer & Collector:			
Envelopes, Bills, Receipts		109 99	
For Town Clerk:			
Ballots, Envelopes		22 70	
Balance to Revenue		70 41	
	\$	600 00	\$ 600 00

**Miscellaneous**

Appropriation		\$	150 00
Transferred from Reserve Fund			50 00
Available from Tax Title Fund			1 00
Paid			
For Dues: Selectmen	\$	16 00	
Treasurer & Collector		5 00	
Assessors		9 00	
Clerk		9 00	
Clerk's Subscription to Recorder		2 50	
Paid For:			
Rental telephone No. 15		42 25	
Departmental outside calls		23 35	
Recording Tax Title		1 00	
Ralph W. Igoe, Town Counsel		50 00	
Balance to Revenue.		42 90	
	\$	201 00	\$ 201 00

**Memorial Hall Maintenance**

Appropriation		\$	600 00
Paid			
Winthrop H. Boyd, Janitor	\$	120 00	
A. C. Bowler Co.,			
Bright star batteries		14 96	
C. Arthur Hanson, piano tuning		7 00	
Worcester County Electric Co.,			
Electricity		313 56	
Balance to Revenue		144 48	
	\$	600 00	\$ 600 00

**Memorial Hall Basement**

Transferred from Public Welfare - Old Age

Assistance by Town Meeting,

December 29, 1953

\$ 1,000 00

Balance December 31, 1953 \$ 1,000 00

**One-Fourth of Insurance on Old Town Hall**

Appropriation

\$ 27 50

Paid

Oakham Congregational Church \$ 27 50

**Employees' Compensation Insurance**

Appropriation

\$ 678 00

Refund

49 99

Paid

Frank A. Smith &amp; Son

\$ 631 14

New England Distributors

Security System

27 75

Balance to Revenue

69 10

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\$ 727 99 \$ 727 99
**Fire Insurance**

Appropriation

\$ 600 00

Paid

On Town Bldgs. &amp; Fixtures:

Smiley Kingsbury Ins. Agency \$

13 30

I. E. Irish, Inc.

285 18

Frank A. Smith &amp; Son

230 64

Balance to Revenue

70 88

---

\$ 600 00 \$ 600 00
**Town Common**

Appropriation

\$ 60 00

Paid

Percy F. Wilbur, for work  
on large tree

\$ 14 95

Elizabeth A. Black,  
for mowing lawn

40 00

Balance to Revenue

5 05

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\$ 60 00 \$ 60 00

**Street Lights**

Appropriation		\$	510 00	
Paid				
Worcester County Electric Co.	\$	391 50		
Balance to Revenue		118 50		
	\$	510 00	\$	510 00

**Chapter 81 Maintenance**

Appropriation		\$	13,200 00	
Total Expenditures	\$	13,196 55		
Unexpended Balance - To Revenue		3 45		
	\$	13,200 00	\$	13,200 00

**Chapter 90 Maintenance**

Appropriation		\$	4,200 00	
Total Expenditures	\$	4,194 07		
Unexpended Balance - To Revenue		5 93		
	\$	4,200 00	\$	4,200 00

**Chapter 90 Construction****Contract 14,152 — Spencer and Robinson Roads**

Appropriation		\$	7,970 08	
Total Expenditures	\$	1,745 71		
Unexpended Balance		6,224 37		
	\$	7,970 08	\$	7,970 08

**Contract 14821 — Robinson Road**

Appropriation		\$	10,000 00	
Total Expenditures	\$	1,664 91		
Unexpended Balance		8,335 09		
	\$	10,000 00	\$	10,000 00

NOTE: Balances on these contracts to be carried over for expenditures during 1954.



**SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS****Scott Road**

Appropriation		\$	1,200	00
Total Expenditures	\$	1,156	97	
Unexpended Balance - To revenue			43	03
	\$	1,200	00	\$ 1,200 00

**Rutherford Road**

Appropriation		\$	500	00
Total Expenditures	\$	439	26	
Unexpended Balance			60	74
	\$	500	00	\$ 500 00

**Snow Removal and Sanding**

Appropriation		\$	4,000	00
Transferred from Old Age Assistance Account				1,000 00
December 29, 1953				
Total Available Funds		\$	5,000	00
Total Expenditures	\$	3,232	04	
Unexpended Balance - to revenue			1,767	96
	\$	5,000	00	\$ 5,000 00

**Machinery Account**

Trans. from Machinery Fund, Mar. 2, 1953		\$	2,200	00
Trans. from Machinery Fund, Apr. 13, 1953			600	00
Trans. from Machinery Fund, Dec. 29, 1953			200	00
Total Available Funds		\$	3,000	00
Total Expenditures	\$	2,784	64	
Unexpended Balance	\$	215	36	
	Returned to Machinery Fund Dec. 31, 1953			

**Machinery Fund**

On Hand, January 1, 1953		\$ 2,486 14
Received Machinery Rentals		
Trucks	\$ 1,426 20	
Snow Plows	85 25	
Tractor and Bulldozer	33 25	
Scraper and Hone	8 00	
	<hr/>	
Total Rentals	\$ 1,552 70	
Total Available Funds		\$ 4,038 84
Transferred to Machinery Account		
March 2, 1953	\$ 2,200 00	
April 13, 1953	600 00	
December 29, 1953	200 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 3,000 00	
Balance December 31, 1953	\$ 1,038 84	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 4,038 84	\$ 4,038 84
	<hr/>	
Balance in Fund, December 31, 1953	\$1,038 84	
Returned from Mach. Acct. 12-31-53	215 36	
	<hr/>	
Amount in Fund, January 1, 1954	\$ 1,254 20	

HIGHWAY REPORT — — GENERAL SUMMARY

Account	Appropriation	Total Expenditure	State Reimburse- ment	County Reimburse- ment	Net Town Funds Expended
Chap. 81, Maint.	\$ 13,200 00	\$ 13,196 55	\$ 12,096 84	\$	1,099 71
Chap. 90 Maint.	4,200 00	4,194 07	1,398 02	1,398 02	1,398 03
Chap. 90 Cons.	17,970 08	3,410 62	1,705 31	852 65	852 66
Scott and Rutherford Roads	1,700 00	1,596 23			1,596 23
Snow Removal and Sanding	4,000 00	3,232 04			3,232 04
	\$ 41,070 08	\$ *25,629 51	\$ 15,200 17	\$ 2,250 67	\$ 8,178 67

\*Does not include expenditures from Machinery Account.

## SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

## LABOR

Name	Classification & Hourly Rate	Amount
Ronald Wilkins, Supt., \$1.40 hr.		\$ 106 40
Harold F. Gray, Supt., \$1.65 hr.		1,547 70
Ralph T. Young, Jr., Supt., \$1.65 hr.		244 20
Percy F. Wilbur, laborer & driver, \$1.15-\$1.25 hr.		1,469 64
Edward F. Kennan, laborer, \$1.15-\$1.25 hr.		1,415 23
Daniel Leno, laborer, \$1.15-\$1.25 hr.		708 98
Robert Riffenberg, laborer & driver, \$1.15-\$1.25 hr.		441 80
Harold Spielvogel, laborer, \$1.15-\$1.25 hr.		42 55
David Wells, laborer, \$1.15 hr.		31 05
Weikko Nahkala, laborer, \$1.15 hr.		4 60
George Fontaine, laborer, \$1.15 hr.		3 45
Walter E. Cole, laborer, \$1.25 hr.		2 50
Harold Weeks, grader operator, \$1.75 hr.		35 00
George Prouty, grader operator, \$1.75 hr.		42 00
James Parsons, driver, \$1.25 hr.		49 85
Total Labor		<hr/> \$ 6,144 95

## EQUIPMENT

Owner	Type of Equipment & Hourly Rate	Amount
Town of Oakham		
Trucks, \$1.40 hr.		\$ 1,426 20
Plows, .50 hr.		85 25
Tractor, \$2.75 hr.		16 50
Bulldozer, \$3.35 hr.		16 75
Scraper, .50 hr.		7 00
Hone, .25 hr.		1 00
Total Town Owned Equipment (Rentals)		<hr/> \$ 1,552 70
Town of Hardwick, Roller, \$5.00 hr.		\$ 75 00
Town of Barre, Grader, \$4.75 hr.		95 00
Town of New Braintree, Grader, \$6.50 hr.		568 75
Town of North Brookfield, Compressor, \$3.50 hr.		24 50
Town of North Brookfield, Sander, \$1.00 hr.		26 00
Stanley Jamara, Sander, \$1.00 hr.		52 00
Stanley Jamara, Loader, \$5.00 hr.		25 00
Michael DeMarco, Loader, \$4.50 hr.		24 75
Michael DeMarco, trucks, \$3.00-\$5.50 hr.		1,169 25



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Stanley Jamara, trucks, \$4.25-\$5.50 hr.	1,324	30
Benjamin Kazemekas, trucks, \$4.25 hr.	127	50
Blake Bros., trucks, \$4.25-\$5.50 hr.	895	62
Ralph T. Young, Jr., trucks, \$4.25-\$5.50 hr.	1,355	25
Ralph T. Young, Jr., Shovel, \$9.60 hr.	1,732	80
Ralph T. Young, Sr., Trailer, \$7.50 hr.	56	25
Ralph T. Young, Sr., Bulldozer, \$6.00 hr.	195	00
Fred Grise, Bulldozer, \$8.50 hr.	178	50
Charles Uracius, Mower, \$4.00 hr.	224	00
William Sandman, Backhoe, \$5.00 hr.	10	00
Percy Wilbur, Automobile	7	17
<hr/>		
Total Outside Equipment	\$	8,166 64
Total Equipment	\$	9,719 34

## SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

## Materials and Services

Vendor	Item	Amount
Independent Coal Tar Co.,	Tar and Oil	\$ 6,649 09
Holden Trap Rock Co.,	Cold Patch	647 45
New England Metal Culvert Co.,	Culverts	
and Fittings		308 03
Camosse Bros.,	Cement blocks	17 00
William Zukus,	Gravel	149 40
Martin Wisniewski,	Gravel	13 40
John Robinson,	Gravel	144 20
Stanley Jamara,	Gravel	9 00
Stanley Jamara,	Sand	1,002 73
Worcester Chemical Co.,	Calcium	302 40
Brewer Co.,	Calcium	144 00
Furnace Grain Co.,	Cement	15 10
State Prison,	Posts and signs	250 25
George F. Blake,	Cable	74 16
George F. Blake,	Reinforcing	34 36
John J. Lane,	Blasting	20 15
Gordon Young,	Welding	62 00
Charles Cassault,	Painting	10 00
J. Klimavich,	Painting	15 00
Varney's Garage,	1953 Ford F-6 Truck	2,000 00
Varney's Garage,	Parts and Service	22 86
Mike's Garage,	Truck Repairs	86 60
Goldstein & Gurwitz,	Snow plow repairs	12 44
St. Pierre Chain Co.,	Tire chains	83 73
Ken Jones,	Tires	65 23



Gulf Oil Co., Gasoline	133 20
Ralph's Gulf Station, Oil, grease and servicing	40 20
Ralph T. Young, Jr., Repairing plows	16 00
Robert T. Quigley, Misc. hardware and paint	56 97
Briggs Bros., Lumber	24 58
Frank Smith, Insurance	89 02
Miscellaneous, shipping, electricity, hardware, etc.	52 81
<hr/>	
Total Materials and Services	\$ 12,550 36

## SUMMARY

Labor	\$ 6,144 95
Equipment	9,719 34
Materials and Services	12,550 36
<hr/>	
Total Highway Expenditures	\$ 28,415 65

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES BY STREETS

Road or Street	Length Miles	Chap. 81 Maint.	Chap. 90 Maint	Chap 90 Const.	Special Approp.	Total
No. Brookfield	3.95	\$ 311 56	\$ 803 22	\$		\$ 1,114 78
New Braintree	2.50	822 83				822 83
East Hill	1.56	77 33				77 33
Coldbrook	3.14	170 60	868 43			1,039 03
Ware Corner	1.10	517 30	9 25			526 55
Robinson	0.83	23 90		1,664 91		1,688 81
Parmenter	0.41	44 80				44 80
Sanders	0.60	142 49				142 49
South	1.80	678 29				678 29
Spencer	2.61	869 88	132 20	1,745 71		2,747 79
Bechan	1.07	2,227 10				2,227 10
Lupa	1.64	459 13				459 13
Crawford	0.89	216 24				216 24
Old Turnpike	4.79	236 08	2,133 07			2,369 15
Rutland	0.77	72 73	247 90			320 63
Swindle	0.19	19 25				19 25
Hapgood	0.55	207 45				207 45
Stone	0.58	215 31				215 31
Rutherford	0.79	356 14			439 26	795 40
Lincoln	2.18	1,490 57				1,490 57
Maple	0.33	179 47				179 47
Barre	1.55	856 20				856 20

Bullard	0.70	89 84	89 84
Edson	0.67	167 91	167 91
Hunt	0.95	346 92	346 92
Adams	1.41	359 60	359 60
George's Lane	0.80	185 65	185 65
Gaffney	1.10	591 99	591 99
Scott	1.54	194 44	1,351 41
Crocker Nye	1.25	592 70	1,156 97
Whitney	0.36	183 68	592 70
Common Drives	0.06	139 48	183 68
Town Hall Drives	0.05	145 19	139 48
Town Garage	0.03	4 50	145 19
Poverty Square	0.29		4 50
Flint	0.34		
Whitehall	0.05		
Sargent's Lane	0.10		
Happy Hollow	0.15		
Gilboy	0.11		
Daniels	0.10		
TOTALS	43.89	\$13,196 55	\$4,194 07
		\$3,410 62	\$1,596 23
			\$22,397 47

## INVENTORY - DECEMBER 31, 1953

EQUIPMENT				
Bulldozer cab	1	Picks		4
Power grindstone	1	Pitch forks		1
Sander	1	Pliers, chain		2
Snow plows		Punch		1
Tractor	1	Rakes		5
Truck	4	Saws		
Tractor, International	1	Carpenter saws		1
Truck, 1953 Ford, F-6	1	Crosscut saws		1
		Hacksaws		1
		42"		1
TOOLS		Scythes		5
Anvil	1	Snaths		3
Axes	2	Shovels		
Bars	3	Long handle		3
Brooms		Round point		4
Straw brooms	2	Square point		4
Push brooms	3	Square, steel		1
Wire brooms	1	Stone forks		5
Brush cutters	2	Tampers		2
Bush hooks	1	Tire irons		3
Chains		Trowels		2
Cross Chains	96	Vise		1
Cross chains	50 ft.	Wrenches		
Log chains	4	End wrenches	1/2 set	
Side chains	50 ft.	1/2" drive socket		
Truck chains	2	wrenches	1/2 set	
Clamps, 6"	1	18" stillson		
Flares, highway	15	wrenches		1
Grease gun	1			
Hammers		SUPPLIES		
Carpenter's hammers	3	Calcium chloride	35 bags	
Sledge hammer	4	Cedar posts		6
Hydraulic jack	1	Cement posts		6
Hoes		Cement	1 bag	
Garden hoes	1	Cement blocks		37
Grub hoes	3	Guard rail cable	2/3 reel	
Hone	1	Guard rail		
Lanterns	2	tighteners		2
Mason's tools		Guard rail		
Edger	2	anchors		2
Floats	2	Reinforcing rods, 6 ft.		80
Grooves	1	Rock salt	32 bags	
Pick handles	1			

**Public Welfare - Administration Account**

Balance January 1, 1953	\$	976 60
Available Funds		*964 78
Transferred from Disability Acct. 12-29-53		*800 00

## Paid

Yvonne Barr, Welfare Worker

Salary	\$	500 00
Mileage		2 94
Reimbursement for Educational Course		7 00
Walter G. Chapman		
Reimbursement for 3 keys purchased		75
Office Supplies		47 40
Telephone and Tolls		57 60

## Paid

For room used as office in F. Lindstrom house

Renovating and Decorating:

Paint, hardware and fixtures	39 82
Labor	164 50
Range Oil	91 23
Rent	195 00

Balance 12-31-53	*1,635 14
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\$	*2,741 38	\$	*2,741 38
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Note: \*Amounts furnished by auditor.

**Public Welfare - General Relief**

Appropriation	\$	1,000 00
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## Paid

For Medical	\$	3 00
Transportation - W. G. Chapman		31 00
Transportation, L. J. Carbonneau		7 00
Food Supplies		100 92
Board and bus fare at Charlton		
Home Farm Association		372 47
Balance to Revenue		485 61

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\$	1,000 00	\$	1,000 00
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**Public Welfare - Aid to Dependent Children**

Appropriation	\$	500 00
To Revenue	\$	500 00



**Public Welfare - Disability Assistance**

Appropriation		\$	2,500	00
Paid on twenty-four payrolls	\$	1,509	75	
Transferred to Administration Acct., 12-29-53			800	00
Balance to Revenue			190	25
			<hr/>	
	\$	2,500	00	\$ 2,500 00

**Public Welfare - Old Age Assistance**

Appropriation		\$	9,000	00
Available Funds				*3,918 93
Transferred - 12-29-53				
To Snow Removal and Sanding	\$	1,000	00	
To Memorial Hall Basement			1,000	00
Paid				
On twenty-four payrolls			10,918	93
			<hr/>	
	\$	12,918	93	\$ 12,918 93

Note: \*Amounts furnished by auditor.

**Cemeteries**

Appropriation		\$	400	00
Trust Funds				163 84
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants	\$	563	84	
(For details refer to Cemetery report)				
			<hr/>	
	\$	563	84	\$ 563 84

**Cemeteries New Lots**

Transferred from Cemetery Lots		\$	100	00
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants	\$	100	00	
(For details refer to Cemetery report)				

**Cemetery Perpetual Care Bequest**

New Lots		\$	100	00
Paid North Brookfield Savings Bank	\$	100	00	

## ANNUAL REPORT

**Board of Health**

Appropriation		\$	25 00
Paid Davis & Bennett, Inc., - For:			
Bacteriological Test on water from the			
Artesian well under Memorial Hall			
Building	\$	15 00	
Balance to Revenue		10 00	
	\$	25 00	\$ 25 00

**School Department**

Appropriation		\$	22,867 00
Paid on twenty-four payrolls	\$	22,842 53	
Balance to Revenue		24 47	
	\$	22,867 00	\$ 22,867 00

**School Room Addition**

Balance January 1, 1953		\$	475 67
Paid Garfield Wright for Unit			
Ventilator (On Contract)	\$	100 00	
Balance Forward		375 67	
	\$	475 67	\$ 475 67

**School Lunch Fund**

Available Funds		\$	*360 37
Paid			
For milk, 5,857½ pints	\$	352 47	
Straws, envelopes, stamps, telephone		7 90	
	\$	360 37	\$ 360 37

**Hot Lunch Program**

Appropriation - March 2, 1953		\$	300 00
Forward to Hot Lunch Program	\$	300 00	
(Per Special Meeting 12-29-53, Art. 1)			

**Veterans' Benefits & Administration**

Appropriation		\$	350 00
To Revenue	\$	350 00	

## ANNUAL REPORT

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**Fobes Memorial Library**

Appropriation	\$	600	00
Received from Dog Taxes		*209	99
Received from Trust Funds		*669	65
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants	\$	1,479	64
(For details refer to Library Report)			
	\$	1,479	64
	\$	1,479	64

Note: \*Amounts furnished by auditor.

**Fire Department**

Appropriation	\$	1,400	00
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants	\$	1,379	25
(For details refer to Fire Dept. report)			
Balance to revenue		20	75
	\$	1,400	00
	\$	1,400	00

**4-H Club**

Appropriation (\$50 for Boys - \$50 for Girls)	\$	100	00
Paid For			
Refreshments	\$	8	13
Boys' Club expenses		46	21
Girls' Club expenses		34	69
Balance to Revenue		10	97
	\$	100	00
	\$	100	00

**Memorial Day**

Appropriation (A. L. Post 378 - to administer)	\$	125	00
Paid			
To American Legion Post No. 378	\$	125	00

**Civilian Defense**

Balance January 1, 1953	\$	225	00
Balance forward Dec. 31, 1953	\$	225	00

**Maturing Debt**

Appropriation	\$	2,500	00
Paid Worcester County Trust Co.,			
North Brookfield for three notes	\$	2,500	00

**Interest on Maturing Funded and Fixed Debt**

Appropriation		\$	575 00
Paid Worcester County Trust Co., North Brookfield, for interest on notes	\$	482 50	
Balance to Revenue		92 50	
		<hr/>	
	\$	575 00	\$ 575 00

**Worcester County Retirement System - Town's Share**

Appropriation	\$	403 22
Paid to Alexander G. Lajoie, Treas.	\$	403 22

**Reserve Fund**

Appropriation		\$	500 00
Transferred to:			
Dutch Elm Disease	\$	89 85	
Dog Officer		5 00	
Miscellaneous		50 00	
Balance to Revenue		355 15	
		<hr/>	
	\$	500 00	\$ 500 00

**Worcester County Retirement System - Withheld**

Withheld from Employees	\$	215 50
Paid to Alexander G. Lajoie, Treas.	\$	215 50

**Federal Withholding Tax**

Withheld from Employees	\$	2,154 20
Paid to U. S. Internal Revenue	\$	2,154 20

**Worcester County Tuberculosis  
Hospital District Assessment**

Available Funds	\$	*1,356 91
Paid to Alexander G. Lajoie, Treas.	\$	1,356 91
65% on basis of valuation		\$780 76
35% because of admit'nce		\$576 15



**Worcester County Tax Assessment**

Available Funds \$ \*1,527 45

Paid to Alexander G. Lajoie, Treas. \$ 1,527 45

Computed by County Commissioners

Note: \*Amounts furnished by auditor.

**State Audit of Accounts**

Available Funds \$ \*470 98

Paid to Foster Furcolo, Treas.,

State House \$ 470 98

Audit not made for 1953 at the time this

Report placed in hands of Printer.

**Dog Licenses**

Treas. received from Town Clerk \$ 305 40

Paid to Alexander G. Lajoie, Treas. \$ 305 40

**Wild Cat Bounty**

Reimbursement by County \$ \*10 00

Paid to Theodore Polenski for 1 Female

cat killed in Oakham State Forest \$ 10 00

**State Parks and Reservations**

Available Funds \$ \*66 64

Paid to Foster Furcolo, Treas.,

State House \$ 66 64

**Motor Vehicle Excise - 1953**

Available Funds \$ \*200 97

Paid 13 Abatements \$ 200 97

**Overlay Account - 1951**

Available Funds \$ \*8 00

Paid to Harry I. Shapiro,

Deputy Sheriff \$ 8 00

**Poll Tax Levy - 1953**

Available Funds \$ \*4 00

Paid 2 Abatements \$ 4 00



**Real Estate Tax Levy - 1953**

Available Funds		\$	*148 40
Paid 2 Abatements	\$	148 40	

**Trust and Investment Funds**

Bequest		\$	*1,000 00
Paid to North Brookfield			
Savings Bank	\$	1,000 00	
Fund by Carl M. Wheeler for Fobes			
Memorial Library (Deposit)			

**Mary Lincoln Alden Fund**

Available Fund		\$	*154 30
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants	\$	154 30	

Note: \*Amounts furnished by auditor.

**Highway Maintenance & Construction Loan**

Available Fund (Borrowed from Worcester			
County Trust Co., in 1952)		\$	10,000 00
Paid to Worcester County Trust Co.,			
North Brookfield	\$	10,000 00	

**Selectmen's Warrants**

Total paid on fifty-two warrants	\$	96,190 68
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**Selectmen's Receipts**

Received for			
Sale of Surplus goods		\$	8 00
Rental of Memorial Hall			26 00
Licenses:			
1—Victualer's			2 00
2—Sunday			4 00
4—To sell and deliver milk & cream			2 00
2—To sell and deliver oleomargarine			1 00
7—Pistol			3 50
1—Renewal Recreational Camp			50
Paid to Town Treasurer,			
W. G. Chapman	\$	47 00	
	\$	47 00	\$ 47 00

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY W. STONE, JR., Chairman  
JOHN P. O'DONNELL  
ROGER H. LONERGAN  
Board of Selectmen

# Report of TAX COLLECTOR 1953

1949—Outstanding January 1st, 1953		\$	6 10	
To Tax Title Account	\$	6 10		
1950—Outstanding January 1st, 1953		\$	446 57	
To Tax Title Account	\$	5 40		
Paid to Treasurer		441 17		
	\$	446 57	\$	446 57
1951—Outstanding January 1st, 1953		\$	2,236 78	
Tax Title Account	\$	6 10		
Assessor's Abatements		2 00		
Paid to the Treasurer		2,152 50		
Outstanding Dec. 31st, 1953		76 18		
	\$	2,236 73	\$	2,236 78
1952—Outstanding January 1st, 1953		\$	6,055 96	
Omitted Assessment			22 10	
To Tax Title Account	\$	6 80		
Paid to Treasurer		3,672 65		
Outstanding Dec. 31st, 1953		2,398 61		
	\$	6,078 06	\$	6,078 06
1953—Poll Tax Commitment		\$	312 00	
Personal Property Commitment			11,037 95	
Real Estate Commitment			23,010 05	
Refunds on Tax after payment			152 40	
To Tax Title Account		7 00		
Assessors Abatements		628 85		
Paid to Treasurer		27,419 15		
Outstanding Dec. 31st, 1953		6,457 40		
	\$	34,512 40	\$	34,512 40

## ANNUAL REPORT

**Motor Vehicle Excise**

1952—Outstanding, January 1st, 1953		\$	590	52	
Assessors Commitments			250	86	
Refunds after payment			50	66	
Assessor's Abatements	\$	138	48		
Paid to Treasurer		745	35		
Outstanding Dec. 31st, 1953		8	21		
	\$	892	04	\$	892 04
<hr/>					
1953—Assessors Commitments		\$	4,915	87	
Refunds after payment			200	97	
Assessors Abatements	\$	156	80		
Paid to Treasurer		3,793	98		
Outstanding Dec. 31st, 1953		1,166	06		
	\$	5,116	84	\$	5,116 84

**Interest & Costs**

Collected		\$	283	24	
Paid to Treasurer	\$	283	24		
	\$	283	24	\$	283 24

**Summary**

Total Collected on Tax Accounts		\$	33,685	47	
Total Collected on Motor Vehicle Excises			4,539	73	
Total Collected on Interest & Costs			283	24	
Paid to the Treasurer	\$	38,508	44		
	\$	38,508	44	\$	38,508 44

**Outstanding Taxes and Excises**

Taxes	\$	8,932	19		
Motor Vehicle Excises		1,174	27		
	\$	10,106	46	\$	10,106 46

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. CHAPMAN, Tax Collector

## Report of TOWN TREASURER

Cash on hand, January 1st, 1953	\$ 49,619 72	
Received from all sources (See Summary for detail)	104,746 00	
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants		\$ 96,190 68
Cash on hand December 31st, 1953		58,175 04
	<hr/>	
	\$ 154,365 72	\$ 154,365 72

### TRUST FUNDS

Balance on hand, January 1st, 1953	\$ 31,299 70	
Interest accrued and paid	1,020 12	
Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds	100 00	
Library Legacy	1,000 00	
Withdrawal of Cemetery Funds		\$ 163 84
Withdrawal of Library Funds		669 65
Balance on hand December 31st, 1953		32,586 33
	<hr/>	
	\$ 33,419 82	\$ 33,419 82

## SUMMARY OF TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

### RECEIPTS

Cash on hand January 1st, 1953		\$ 49,619 72
Alden Fund Income	444 54	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 444 54

#### Cemeteries

Annual care of lots	\$ 86 00	
Sale of lots	85 66	
Perpetual care funds received	200 00	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 371 66

#### County Treasurer

Dog Tax Refund (Library)	\$ 209 99	
Wild Cat Bounties	10 00	
Aid to Highways	2,407 44	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 2,627 43



## Fire Department

Received for fees	\$	7 75	
Refunds on Registration		2 78	
Refund Forest Fire Warden		35 63	
		<hr/>	\$ 46 16

## Highway Department

Machine Rental Fund	\$	1,554 20	
Refund on Compensation Insurance		49 99	
		<hr/>	\$ 1,604 19

## Library

Fines	\$	24 40	
Payment for lost book		75	
Sale of Books		1 80	
Legacy for a Special Purpose		30 00	
		<hr/>	\$ 56 95

## School Lunch Program

From the sale of milk	\$	360 24	
		<hr/>	\$ 360 24

## Selectmen

Licenses and permits	\$	13 00	
Sale of Surplus goods		8 00	
		<hr/>	\$ 21 00

## State Treasurer

O.A.A. Federal Grants (Aid)	\$	5,497 00	
O.A.A. Federal Grants (Admin.)		702 87	
O.A.A. State Reimbursement (Aid)		3,983 04	
A.D.C. Federal Grants (Admin.)		19 53	
A.D.C. State Reimbursement (Aid)		285 31	
D.A. Federal Grants (Aid)		963 60	
D.A. Federal Grants (Admin.)		118 24	
D.A. State Reimbursement (Admin.)		65 05	
D.A. State Reimbursement (Aid)		441 32	
Income Tax		280 00	
O.A. Meal Tax		302 98	
Schools, Chapter 70		7,570 55	



## ANNUAL REPORT

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Corporation State Tax	1,879 50	
Live Stock Control	17 50	
Lieu of Taxes	4,317 08	
School Lunch Fund Federal Grants	125 02	
State Aid to Highways	22,924 15	
Hawkers License	3 00	
General Relief State Sick Poor	56 43	
High School Transportation	6,251 86	
Supt. of Schools Salary	237 49	
	<hr/>	\$ 56,041 52
Taxes		
Tax Collector	\$ 38,508 44	
	<hr/>	\$ 38,508 44
Town Clerk		
Dog Taxes	\$ 301 80	
	<hr/>	\$ 301 80
Town Hall		
Rent	\$ 25 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 25 00
Trust & Investment Funds		
From Library Funds	\$ 669 65	
From Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds	163 84	
	<hr/>	\$ 833 49
To Trust Funds		
Wheeler Legacy for Library	1,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,000 00
Withheld Items		
Federal Withholding Taxes	\$ 2,259 08	
Wor. Co. Ret. System	244 50	
	<hr/>	\$ 2,503 58
		<hr/>
		\$ 154,365 72

## DISBURSEMENTS

Paid on Selectmen's Warrants	\$ 96,190 68	
Cash on hand, Dec. 31st, 1953	58,175 04	
	<hr/>	\$ 154,365 72

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. CHAPMAN, Treasurer

## BALANCE SHEET — 1953

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash all sources	\$ 54,689 34	Overestimated 1953	\$ 71 39
Alden Fund Income	3,475 70	County Tax	
Library Petty Cash	10 00	Agency	469 95
	\$ 58,175 04	Excess Sale of Land	3,475 70
Tax Levies		Mary Alden Fund, Income	
1951—Personal Prop. \$	76 18	Federal Grants,	1,065 82
1952—Poll Tax	12 00	Welfare Dept.	
Personal Prop.	435 57	School Lunch Program	209 63
Real Estate	1,951 04	Cash Balance	120 66
1953—Poll Tax	18 00	Sale of Cemetery Lots	100 00
Personal Prop.	911 25	Cem. Pep. Care Funds	16,324 08
Real Estate	5,528 15	Appropriation balances	
	\$ 8,932 19	Employees Deductions	
Motor Vehicle Excise		Fed. Tax	\$ 104 88
1952	\$ 8 21	Co. Ret. Sys.	26 30
1953	1,166 06		\$ 131 18
	\$ 1,174 27	Machinery Fund	1,038 84
Tax Possessions	96 30	Overlay Surplus	4,096 46
Departmental Accounts		Overlay Abatements	
Old Age Assistance	200 49	1951	66 18
Aid to Highways		1952	1,083 12
State	13,567 04	1953	522 23
County	5,892 52		
	\$ 19,459 56		1,671 53

# ANNUAL REPORT

## BALANCE SHEET (Continued)

[illegible]

## DEBIT ACCOUNTS

Net Fixed & Funded		Serial Loans	
Debt:		Municipal Bldg. and remodeling loan	
Inside Debt Limit	\$ 11,500 00	1951	\$ 8,000 00
Outside Debt Limit	8,500 00	Municipal Bldg. and remodeling loan	
	<u>          </u>	1951	3,500 00
	\$ 20,000 00	School Bldg. Loan	



## Report of CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Town Appropriation	\$ 400 00
New Lots	100 00
Received from Trust Funds	163 84
	<hr/>
	\$ 663 84

### Expenditures

L. A. Hardy	\$ 468 05	
L. W. Hardy	18 40	
Robert A. Hardy	24 15	
Charles G. Munson	13 80	
Jamara Bros.	87 25	
A. Menault, machinery & repairs	10 00	
Hardy's Garage	1 95	
Walsh's Market, paint	4 23	
Furnace Grain & Coal Co.	16 73	
Arthur Webb. Office Expense	19 28	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 663 84	
Received Annual Care of Lots - 1953	\$ 71 00	
Received Annual Care of Lots - 1952	9 00	
Received - Lots Sold	40 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 120 00	

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR WEBB, Secretary



## Report of PUBLIC WELFARE DEPARTMENT

After the hectic year of 1952, it is with pleasure, that your Welfare Department reports a very quiet twelve months in Welfare assistance in all categories of assistance. We were able to keep well within our estimated budget and, due to the fact that the Commonwealth was able, and did, make the Federal and State reimbursement payments on time, we were able to sanction the transfer of \$2,800.00 in welfare funds to other departments and returned \$3,475.33 to the Revenue Account at the close of the year. The program, as outlined by the State Department for the year 1953, was carried out in detail. Our Welfare Worker was able to revamp all of the case histories, check all details relative to eligibility for assistance, make the necessary calls and give the special supervisory attention to individual cases when needed. At this time she has, under her supervision fourteen Old Age Assistance recipients, two Disability cases and one State General Relief case. Temporary assistance was given to one family who are, at the present time, self supporting. Our Aid to Dependent Children account is inactive at this time. In view of the above the Department is able to make a very drastic cut in our estimated budget for the ensuing year and hope to be able to keep within the limit set.

### AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Appropriation	\$	500	00	
State Reimbursement		285	31	
Balance in Federal Grant Acct.		251	24	
State Re. to Estimated Receipts				285 31
Balance in Federal Grant Acct.				251 24
Returned to Revenue				500 00
<hr/>				
	\$	1,036	55	\$ 1,036 55

### SUMMARY

Paid from Town Funds		00
Reimbursement for prior year		285 31
<hr/>		
Gain for the Town	\$	285 31

## OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Appropriation	\$ 9,000 00	
Balance in Federal Grant Acct.	227 85	
Federal Grants received	5,497 00	
State & Town reimbursement	3,983 04	
Old Age Meal Tax (Esti. Rec.)	302 98	
Due from Cities & Towns, 1-1-53	200 49	
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants		\$ 10,918 93
Balance in Federal Grant Acct.		448 95
State Funds to Estimated Receipts		4,243 66
Trans. to Memorial Hall Acct.		1,000 00
Trans. to Snow & Sand Acct.		1,000 00
Returned to Revenue		1,356 97
Due from Cities & Towns		242 85
	<hr/>	
	\$ 19,211 36	\$ 19,211 36

## SUMMARY

Paid from Town Funds	\$10,918 93
Total Reimbursement	10,211 36
	<hr/>
Cost to the Town	707 57

## DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

Appropriation	\$ 2,500 00	
Balance in Federal Grant Account	103 30	
Received from Federal Grants	963 60	
State & Town Reimbursement	447 25	
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants		\$ 1,509 75
State Funds to Estimated Receipts		445 35
Adjustment to Admin. Acct.		1 90
Balance in Federal Grant Acct.		124 25
Trans. to Administration Acct.		800 00
Return to Revenue		1,132 70
	<hr/>	
	\$ 4,014 15	\$ 4,014 15

## SUMMARY

Paid from Town Funds	\$ 1,509 75
Total Reimbursement	1,410 85
	<hr/>
Cost to Town	98 90

## GENERAL RELIEF ACCOUNT

Appropriation	\$ 1,000 00	
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants		\$ 514 39
Return to Revenue		485 61
	<hr/>	
	\$ 1,000 00	\$ 1,000 00

## SUMMARY

Paid from Town Funds	\$ 514 39
Reimbursement in 1954	00
	<hr/>
Cost to Town	\$ 514 39

## ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS

Bal. in Welfare Acct. 1-1-53	\$ 976 60	
Bal. in A.D.C. Ad. Acct. 1-1-53	18 63	
Bal. in O.A.A. Ad. Ac. 1-1-53	40 29	
Bal. in D. A. Ad. Ac. 1-1-53	4 20	
Trans. from D. A. Aid Acct.	800 00	
Received from Federal Grants	840 64	
Received from State Grants	59 12	
Adjustment from D. A. Account	1 90	
Paid on Selectmen's Warrants		\$ 1,106 24
Bal. in Welfare Acct. 12-31-53		1,393 96
Bal. in A.D.C. Ad. Acct. 12-31-53		9 32
Bal. in O.A.A. Ad. Acct. 12-31-53		202 81
Bal. in D.A. Ad. Ac. 12-31-53		29 05
	<hr/>	
	\$ 2,741 38	\$ 2,741 38

## SUMMARY

Paid from Town funds	\$ 1,106 24
Total Reimbursement	899 76
	<hr/>
Cost to the Town	\$ 206 48

## SUMMARY FOR DEPARTMENT

Appropriations all categories	\$ 13,000 00
Total State Reimbursements	4,774 72
Federal Grant Acct., 1-1-53	645 51
Total received from Fed. Grants	7,301 24
State Meal Tax	302 98
Due from Cities & Towns 1-1-53	200 49

## ANNUAL REPORT

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Balance in Welfare Admin. Acct. 1-1-53	976 60	
Transferred from D.A. Aid Acct. to Admin.	800 00	
Adjustment from D.A. Aid to Admin.	1 90	
Total paid on Selectmen's Warrants		\$ 14,049 31
Transfers to various accounts		2,800 00
Due from Cities & Towns, 12-31-53		242 85
Adjustment in D. A. Accounts		1 90
Federal Grant Acct. 12-31-53		1,065 82
State Reimbursements to Est. Rec.		4,974 32
Balance in Welfare Admin. Acct.		1,393 96
Returned to Revenue		3,475 28
		<hr/>
		\$ 28,003 44 \$ 28,003 44

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD AGAR, Chairman

MARGUERITE TROY

W. G. CHAPMAN, Agent

Board of Public Welfare



## Report of MOTH SUPERINTENDENT

Town Appropriation		\$	210 00
Expended for Labor	\$	169 20	
Balance		\$	40 80

### Dutch Elm Control

Town Appropriation		\$	105 00
Expended for Labor	\$	194 85	
	\$	89 85	

Six Elm trees with Dutch Elm Disease removed and destroyed by the Moth crew.

Seven reported destroyed on M.D.C. Land by the M.D.C. crew.

Respectfully submitted,

ELMER V. NEWTON,

Moth Superintendent



Report of  
FOBES MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1953

## RECEIPTS

Town appropriation	\$	600 00	
Dog Tax Refund		209 99	
From invested funds		669 65	
		<hr/>	\$ 1,479 64

## EXPENDITURES

Librarian	\$	208 00	
Janitor		166 00	
Heat and Lights		222 05	
Books and Magazines		290 67	
Librarian's Expenses		56 02	
Repairs (Including Oil Burner)		411 45	
Printing		5 25	
Old Books purchased		1 00	
Fire Insurance		109 20	
Balance Librarian's Petty Cash Acct.		10 00	
		<hr/>	\$ 1,479 64

JOHN P. DAY

WINIFRED LANE

PHILIP B. BURGESS

Trustees

## Report of THE AUDITOR

### Town of Oakham, Mass — Year 1953

As Auditor of the Town of Oakham I have examined the books of accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector and Librarian. Cash book footings were verified, cash and securities checked and found correct. Cash receipts from all sources were checked and found correct. Tax Collector's cash and outstanding unpaid taxes were checked, also the Collector's remittance sheets to the Treasurer were found to be in proper order. Appropriation records as kept by your auditor have been checked and verified with the books of the Town's Officers and amounts spent and balances returned to revenue verified. Recommendations for the preservation of Town Records, also for the more efficient handling of Town Accounts have been made to the proper Town Officers.

O. HAROLD ERICKSON,

Town Auditor

# Report of CHARLTON HOME FARM ASSOCIATION

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31st, 1953

## ASSETS

Land & Buildings	\$ 14,000 00	
Cash in Savings Banks	11,787 32	
U. S. Bonds (3)	2,814 00	
Personal Property (Inventory)	3,344 00	
Amounts due from Towns	1,367 57	
Cash in Warden's account	300 00	
Cash in Treas. Checking Acct.	1,029 38	
	<hr/>	\$ 34,642 27

## OPERATING ACCOUNT FOR 1953

### Receipts

Cash 1-1-53	25 13	
Income Farm	612 31	
Withdrawn from Savings Bank	1,000 00	
Account Rec. - Boarders	19,546 56	
	<hr/>	\$ 21,184 00

## EXPENDITURES

Accounts paid	\$ 20,154 62	
Cash in Checking Acct. 12-31-53	1,029 38	
	<hr/>	\$ 21,184 00

## WARDEN'S REPORT

Number of Boarders from Town	20	
Other Boarders	12	
	<hr/>	
Total number of Boarders	32	

ROBERT F. TUCKER, President  
LESTER P. GATES,  
Secretary & Treasurer  
CARL F. DAVIS, Auditor

## Report of BOARD OF HEALTH

Town Appropriation		\$	25 00
Departmental receipts			9 50
Paid Davis & Bennett, Inc., for water test	\$	15 00	
Receipts to Treasurer		9 50	
Balance to Revenue		10 00	
	<hr/>		
	\$	34 50	\$ 34 50

### LICENSES ISSUED

1—Recreational Camp renewal	@	\$ 0.50
2—Sale of Oleomargarine	@	0.50
4—Sale of Milk & Cream	@	0.50
1—Victualer's	@	2.00
2—Sunday	@	2.00

### CONTAGIOUS DISEASES REPORTED

None

### WORCESTER COUNTY SANATORIUM

4—Outpatient examinations

### INVESTIGATIONS

2—Water pollution  
2—Public Nuisance

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY W. STONE, JR., Chairman

JOHN P. O'DONNELL

ROGER H. LONERGAN

# Report of FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR 1953

Appropriation \$ 1,400 00

## Expenditures

Ralph's Gas Station	\$ 9 18
David Labonte	10 44
Haven Goodwin	10 50
Hardy's Garage	27 70
Warren Belting Company	7 15
Leonard A. Hardy	7 51
Conant & Parker	50
David Deane	392 50
John C. Lane	24 95
Robert T. Quigley	12 45
Hobbs & Warren	9 16
Stanley Judycki	175 00
Robert O. Lane	17 50
N. E. Fire Chief's Ass'n	3 00
Conant & Parker	20 13
Frank A. Smith & Son	267 63
Fuelite Natural Gas Corp.	242 45
Labor	141 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,379 25
Unexpended Balance	20 75
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,400 00 \$ 1,400 00

The Fire Department answered calls for 14 fires in 1953:

4 chimney fires	\$ 20 00
2 building fires	9 00
6 grass and brush fires	98 25
1 truck short circuit	4 00
1 call investigating smoke	2 25
Labor paid in 1953 for chimney	
and partition fire, Dec. 30, 1952	8 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 141 50

The Town Treasurer received a check from the State in the amount of \$35.63, 50% of the cost of overhauling one of the portable pumps.



Permits issued by the Dept. in 1953:

3 L.P. Gas	\$	1 50	
5 Burner Installations		2 50	
4 Oil Storage		2 00	
1 Range Oil Storage		25	
3 Blasting		1 50	
		<hr/>	\$ 7 75

In October the Department purchased a 500 gallon tank truck to increase the immediate supply of water available at any fire.

The cost of \$175.00 was paid out of the Fire Department appropriation.

We are informed by our Insurance Agent that the addition of the tank truck will give our Department a higher rating, and will entitle the owners of farm property, within a 3-mile radius of the center a 5% reduction in their Fire Insurance.

With the purchase of 372 feet of 1½ inch hose in 1953, the Department now has 780 feet of 1½ inch hose and 1200 feet of 1⅛ inch hose.

The summer of 1953 was extremely dry with the Burning Index at the explosive stage day after day for weeks.

Of the 6 grass and brush fires, we had to call in outside help for only one.

The Department gives full credit for the small number of these fires, to the extreme caution of all of the people of Oakham. The Department also wants to thank the many people who called in and reported smoke seen or unauthorized fires.

Every such call was investigated immediately.

These calls undoubtedly saved much greater losses.

Respectfully submitted,

OAKHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT.

LEONARD A. HARDY, Chief

## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

1953

To the Board of Trustees of Fobes Memorial Library:

There were 36 new application cards issued in 1953.

134 books were borrowed during the year on the inter-library loan system.

50 of these books were for vacation reading projects.

10 children participated and received "Vacation Reading Diplomas."

87 of the borrowed books were for adult readers of western and detective story interest.

At the close of the school year, 20 Honor Certificates were given to pupils in grades 5-8, who read books on the state reading list, in conjunction with their school work.

During the summer a "Story Hour" was conducted, with Mrs. Alfred Morse, as narrator.

63 children registered, 10 of whom were summer visitors.

New books were given to 17 children for attendance prizes. The names of the children were published, at the time, so I will not repeat them here.

There are 23 magazines on the reading table. Three of which are gift subscriptions from the Congregational Church, the Grange, and the Parent Teachers Association.

497 magazines were in circulation during the year.

3729 books were circulated in 1953.

Adult	Children
190 books on loan	
496 fiction	2144 fiction
101 non-fiction	798 non-fiction
<hr/>	<hr/>
787 adult books	2942 children's books

259 books were added to our shelves; out of which 79 were for adult readers. Only three were purchased.

The 76 books were given by the following people:

Ralph Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. D. DeRoches, O. Harold Erickson, Rose Marie Krepel, New Braintree Library, Mrs. John Mann, Peter P. J. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. John Neelley, A. A. Parker, American Legion Post, No. 378, Mrs. Grace Rood, the Conant sisters, Eva Allen and Alice Malcolm.

148 new children's books were purchased. 32 were given, making 180 new books for the children.

Those who gave children's books were:

Elizabeth Black, Beverly Gallant, Mrs. Fred Lane, Mrs. Alfred Morse, and Verna Tucker.

In June, I was issued a petty cash account, for which I was very grateful.

Received		\$	10 00
Paid			
3 box rents @ 50c per quarter	\$	1 50	
Stamps, cards, envelopes		1 45	
Story hour material and sundry accessories		6 30	
Refund on book		75	
		<hr/>	\$ 10 00

This account has been audited.

A reading list was drawn up for the Den No. 1, Cub Scouts, to start reading achievement.

Merit Badge books have been purchased to aid Scout Troop No. 144 in their achievement awards.

In 1954, I am anxious to obtain books that will be useful to the high school pupils in their home work and library reference requirements.

As you know great effort has been made to build up the children's library, and I hope we may continue.

I thank you for your generous support in all of the undertakings of the year.

I especially want to thank Mrs. Morse, the parents and friends, who helped make the story hour a success.

Also many thanks to the school teachers and Mr. Buker.

At the close of the year, we started a new reading project, in cooperation with a woman's group, that has got off to a good start, with wonderful interest, thus far.

Hoping for still better support from the towns people, and promising you untiring service in the work, I close.

Your Librarian,

MRS. LILA WILBUR



# Report of the OAKHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For the year ending December 31, 1953

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Willard C. Rutherford,	Term expires 1954
Mrs. Mary H. Parsons	Term expires 1955
Philip Dwelly	Term expires 1956

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

William H. Buker	Holden, Mass.
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## OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Lois P. Drawbridge	Holden, Mass.
Mrs. Addie P. Wentworth	Holden, Mass.

## TEACHERS

Mrs. Esther G. Hawkes	Grades VI, VII, VIII
Mrs. Winifred B. Lane	Grades III, IV, V
Miss Helena K. Rutherford	Grades I, II

## SUPERVISORS

Miss Ruth S. Innes	MUSIC
Gregory F. Bowes	ART
Rinehart Handwriting System	PENMANSHIP

## SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

Leroy E. Mayo, M.D.	Holden, Mass.
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## SCHOOL NURSE

Mrs. Brenda T. Sullivan	Holden, Mass.
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## CUSTODIAN

Winthrop H. Boyd	Oakham, Mass.
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## BUS DRIVERS

John O'Donnell	Leonard A. Hardy
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## ANNUAL REPORT

### ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Donald Agar

Oakham, Mass.

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

Winter Term	January 4, 1954 thru February 19, 1954
Spring Term	March 1, 1954 thru April 15, 1954
Summer Term	April 26, 1954 thru June 11, 1954
Fall Term	September 8, 1954 thru December 23, 1954

### HOLIDAYS

April 16, 1954	Good Friday
May 31, 1954	Memorial Day
October 12, 1954	Columbus Day
November 5, 1954	Teachers' Convention
November 11, 1954	Armistice Day
November 24 to November 29	Thanksgiving Recess

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## Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

To the School Committee and citizens of Oakham:

I herewith present my sixth report and the fifty-fourth of the series.

Mrs. Leone B. Daniels, after twenty years of faithful and conscientious service as a school committee member, retired. Her excellent judgment and thorough understanding of educational problems were a great asset to the committee. Mr. Philip Dwelly, the newly elected member, is taking an active interest in the schools and proving to be a real help to the committee and the superintendent.

Oakham is fortunate in retaining the same qualified teachers. Our teachers not only know their pupils, but the parents. Only small towns can have such a happy situation. We hope Oakham may be able to retain these teachers for several years.

In October mental and achievement tests were given to grades four, six and eight. The results are given in the chart below.

Norm for the tests are 4.1 for Grade IV, 6.1 for Grade VI and 8.1 for Grade VIII.



Norms for Oakham Pupils were as follows:

	Gr. IV	Gr. VI	Gr. VIII
Reading	4.5	6.0	8.5
Arithmetic	4.6	6.2	8.9
Language	4.8	5.9	9.4
Spelling	5.0	6.2	8.6

The eighth grade was seven months above the norm.

Information that teachers receive from such tests is valuable in adjusting their teaching methods and ascertaining the amount of time needed for the several subjects.

The enrollment has increased. There are now eighty-three pupils in the elementary school. There are eighteen attending secondary schools, ten at North Brookfield High, six at Holden High and two in the Worcester High Schools.

The refinishing of the desks has improved the working conditions of the pupils and minor repairs will tend to provide a better school.

The local organizations which have assisted the school deserve our thanks and appreciation. Especially, I wish to mention Mrs. Verno Tucker, who has managed the milk fund. Keeping the State records for this fund is quite a task.

The aid that our pupils have received from the Librarian, Mrs. Lila Wilbur is appreciated. Libraries are a necessary aid in the modern school system.

Doctor Leroy E. Mayo, the school physician, reports that the annual physical examinations have been completed. Immunization clinics were conducted using diphtheria and tetanus toxoid provided by the State. Clinics are being planned for the coming spring.

Mrs. Brenda T. Sullivan, the school nurse reports that a pre-school clinic was held with parents present. The purpose of this clinic was to check the health of the child and to insure his best physical condition when he began school. The nurse suggests that parents should report all contagious diseases to the Board of Health. This Board has the authority to issue permits before children are allowed to return to school. The State Department of Health has established the following regulation:

"A child shall be examined by a physician six months before entering school or during the first year after entrance and at intervals of three or four years."

Mrs. Sullivan has visited eleven homes, had personal interviews with parents, weighed forty-eight pupils, given eight first aid and given sixty four vision tests.

Mr. Gregory F. Bowes, supervisor of art, reports that the policy of self expression and experimentation with various media have been carried out. In the upper grades varied activities, such as murals, stained glass windows and three dimensional paper sculpture projects have been taught, as well as consideration of figures in action, seasonal projects, color theory and practice in using water colors, poster paints and crayons.

Miss Ruth S. Innes, the music supervisor reports that a wealth of material has been presented to the lower grades. Reading music in the intermediate grades provides a broad and rich musical enjoyment. Favorite songs, those from the classics, romantic and contemporary composers and those of our country have been taught. The pupils have participated in the Commencement, Memorial and Christmas programs.

The budget that the School Committee has recommended for 1954 is necessary if Oakham wishes to offer its children and young people an education in line with neighboring towns. The increase in the tuition account is so that all tuition bills due in 1954 can be paid in 1954.

For the sixth year I wish to thank all for the assistance they have given me. May the schools of Oakham be the best that the town can afford.

WILLIAM H. BUKER,  
Superintendent of School Union No. 29

SUMMARY OF REGISTERS

June 1953

Grades	Total Mem.	Ave. Mem.	% Att.
I-II	25	24.51	92.62
III-IV-V	28	26.34	95.10
VI-VII-VIII	21	19.34	94.02
Totals	74	70.19	93.91

ENROLLMENT, DECEMBER 31, 1953

Grades	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	Totals
Boys	5	6	8	5	5	5	5	3	42
Girls	5	7	6	6	4	5	2	6	41
	10	13	14	11	9	10	7	9	83

## SCHOOL CENSUS — October 1, 1953

	Boys	Girls	Total
5 to 7 years of age	7	17	24
7 to 16 years of age	40	42	82
	<hr/> 47	<hr/> 59	<hr/> 106

## GRADUATES — June 1953

## Oakham Center School

Arthur F. Bealand	Nancy Rutherford
Shirley A. Crawford	Gloria Ruth Wells
Vivian J. Crawford	

## TUITION PUPILS

## North Brookfield High School

Arthur F. Bealand	Virginia Rutherford
Nancy Rutherford	Grace Wells
Gloria Ruth Wells	David Wells
Valena Beachan	Gail Wells
William Budreau	Wesley Dwelly
Patricia Foley	Virginia Foley

## Holden High School

Edith L. Crawford	Shirley A. Crawford
Beverly A. Gallant	Vivian J. Crawford
Marilyn M. Parsons	Paul R. Downer

## Commerce High School

Barbara Hardy

## Worcester Boys' Trade High School

Leonard W. Hardy



**TOWN WARRANT****THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Worcester, ss.

To either of the constables of the town of Oakham in the County of Worcester.

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Oakham qualified to vote in elections, and in town affairs to meet at the town hall known as "Memorial Hall" on Monday, the first day of March next, at 12 M at which time the polls will be opened and will be closed at 8 P.M.

Business meeting will open at 8 P.M. then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1. To hear the annual report of the several town officers and act thereon.

Article 2. To choose one Selectman, one Assessor, one member of the Board of Public Welfare, one member of the School Committee, one Library Trustee, one member of the Cemetery Committee, all for three year terms; a Collector of Taxes, Treasurer, Auditor, Tree Warden, six Constables, three Fence Viewers, and a Moderator, for one year terms, all on one ballot.

Article 3. To choose all necessary town officers and committees for the ensuing year not required to be elected by ballot.

Article 4. To see if the town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended: 1 Town Clerk, 3 Selectmen, 3 Assessors, 3 Board of Public Welfare, 3 School Committee, 1 Moderator, 1 Tax Collector, 1 Treasurer, 1 Auditor, and raise and appropriate a sum of money therefor.

Article 5. To see what compensation the town will allow for men and trucks in repairing highways and opening roads for the ensuing year.

Article 6. To see if the town will raise and appropriate a sum of money to bond their Treasurer, Collector and Town Clerk.

Article 7. To raise and appopriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the following town charges: SCHOOLS, PUBLIC WELFARE, OLD AGE ASSISTANCE,

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN, TOWN OFFICERS' SUPPLIES, STREET LIGHTS, BOARD OF HEALTH, ELECTION AND REGISTRATION, INSPECTION OF ANIMALS, INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTERING, POLICE, PRINTING, MEMORIAL DAY, DOG OFFICER, SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, MISCELLANEOUS, LIBRARY, CEMETERIES, FIRE DEPARTMENT, VETERANS' BENEFITS AND ADMINISTRATION, MOTH SUPPRESSION, DUTCH ELM DISEASE, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION INSURANCE, RESERVE FUND, FIRE INSURANCE, SNOW REMOVAL AND SANDING, MEMORIAL HALL MAINTENANCE, TREE WARDEN, INSPECTION OF WIRES, EXPENSE OF WORCESTER COUNTY RETIREMENT SYSTEM, CARE OF TOWN COMMON, AND 4-H CLUBS.

Article 8. To see if the town will vote to transfer to surplus revenue the sum of \$800.00 which amount was transferred from the Disability Assistance account to the Department of Public Welfare Perpetual Administration account, under Article 5 of the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting held on December 29, 1953, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 9. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow during the current fiscal year, in anticipation of the revenue of said year, such sums of money as may be necessary for the current expenses of the town giving the note or notes of the town therefor, these notes to be paid from the revenues of said financial year.

Article 10. To see if the town will vote to transfer a certain sum of money from the Machinery Fund to the Machinery Account.

Article 11. To see if the town will vote to accept any trust funds that may be left for the care of cemeteries or other purposes.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of money for Chapter 81 Highway maintenance or take any action relative thereto.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of money for Chapter 90 Highway Maintenance or take any action relative thereto.



Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for Chapter 90 Construction, said money to be used for the improvement of Robinson Rd., or take any action relative thereto.

Article 15. To see if the town will vote to appropriate from their surplus revenue the sum of \$8,000.00 to be used by the Board of Assessors in figuring the 1954 tax rate, same to help reduce the amount of the tax rate in 1954.

Article 16. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a certain sum of money for the Oakham Civilian Defense Organization or take any action relative thereto.

Article 17. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a certain sum of money, same to be used in paying the notes of the town coming due in this fiscal year, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 18. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be used to pay the accrued interest due in this fiscal year on its outstanding Funded and Fixed debt, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 19. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$134.00 to pay an outstanding bill due E. P. Wine for fuel incurred by the School Committee during December 1953, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 20. To see if the town will authorize the Oakham School Committee to set up and operate a school lunch program in the Oakham Center School, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 21. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a certain sum of money for setting up and operating a school lunch program in the Oakham Center School, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 22. To see if the town will authorize the Selectmen to sell or trade the International TD9 bulldozer, the proceeds of which to be returned to the Machinery Fund or take any action relative thereto.

Article 23. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a certain sum of money to purchase a 220 gallon water tank and install same in Memorial Hall Basement or take any action relative thereto.

Article 24. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$600 to improve Gaffney Road, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 25. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1200 to improve and oil a section of Scott Road, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the selectmen to petition the General Court for authority to convey to the Oakham Evangelical Congregational Church that portion of the Town Common of Oakham as shown on a plan dated February 1954, drawn by R. H. Lonergan, C.E., and entitled "Plan of Land to be Acquired by the Oakham Evangelical Congregational Church" and also all rights to any rooms of the church building which the Town of Oakham may now possess and also the right to take water by the present pipe line from the water system in the Memorial Hall Bldg., and to maintain, replace, and repair said pipe line between the Memorial Hall Bldg. and the Church building, and also the right to connect to and use the town sewage disposal system which now serves the Memorial Hall Center School, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 27. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate one quarter of the insurance on the Old Town Hall.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies in public places in said town seven days at least before time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hand this twelfth day of February in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four.

HENRY W. STONE, JR.

JOHN P. O'DONNELL

ROGER H. LONERGAN

Board of Selectmen

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